

DAVID & GOLIATH



THINK ABOUT IT:

How can you get through difficult circumstances or situations?

Introduction

Ask the children to think of one difficult thing. Have them share with a neighbor. Ask who heard something really difficult and have them share.

Say, “Today’s story might seem incredible. But it all happened because one small boy knew how he could get through a difficult circumstance or situation.”

Message

1. Choose three children to be main characters: Saul (wears a crown), David (holds the slingshot), and Goliath (stands on a chair with a blanket draped over the shoulders, holds a sword).
2. Divide the rest of the class into the Israelites (say “Oh no” when they hear the word Israelites) and the Philistines (Chant “Go-li-ath” twice when they hear the word Philistines). Have the two groups practice their words once.
3. Read the story of David and Goliath and have Saul, David, and Goliath act out their parts and pause to let the respective armies add their words.

The Story of David and Goliath

All of Israel was afraid of this **Philistine** giant named Goliath. He was more than 9 feet tall and wore heavy armor. Every day he went before the **Israelites**, waving his enormous sword in the air. He challenged them to send someone to fight him. Goliath said that if he won the battle, the entire **Israelite** army would become **Philistine** slaves. The **Israelites** were afraid of Goliath, so no one went. David could not understand why they weren’t trusting in God. David believed that it was God that Goliath was really challenging, and he knew that no one could defeat God.

When King Saul found out that the only person willing to stand against Goliath was a shepherd boy, he sent for him. David went immediately to see the king. As he stood before Saul, the king folded his arms and smiled. He



SCRIPTURE

1 Samuel 17
Philippians 4:11-13



MATERIALS

- Bible for each small group leader
- Crown
- Slingshot
- Blanket
- Sword
- Visual - David & Goliath *

* Available in the Member Toolbox



PREPARATION

- Write the *Think About It* question on the board

**IDEA!**

Children may get hung up on the thought of accomplishing something impossible. Use the word *challenging* or *difficult* to help focus #4.

**IDEA!**

The visuals listed in the materials are provided as additional resources to be used at your discretion.

used his hand to hide his laughter when he noticed just how small David was. He asked David how he thought a boy his size could possibly defeat a 9-foot-tall giant. But David didn't care. He folded his arms and stood extra tall. He told the king that this battle was not his alone, but it was God's and God would surely go with him. Then he told the king how, as a shepherd, his job was to care for and protect the sheep. David explained that he had killed a lion and a bear, and he would kill this giant, too. Saul brought out his very own armor and put it on David, but it was too big and heavy. David could barely walk, let alone fight, so he took it off and gave it back to the king. Shaking his head in disbelief, Saul patted David on the back and sent him out to face the giant, Goliath. The whole **Israelite** army had come to watch. The **Philistines** were waiting. All the **Israelites** were thinking, what was the king doing, allowing this boy to go out to battle for them? They were terrified of Goliath, so they just backed away and let David through.

As David approached Goliath, he knelt down and picked up five smooth stones. When David stood up, Goliath noticed him with the sling in one hand and a staff in the other and taunted, "Am I a dog that you come at me with a stick?" Then he laughed loudly. The **Philistines** pointed at David and laughed, too. David didn't care. He placed a stone in his sling and hurled it toward Goliath. He hit Goliath in the forehead and the mighty giant began to sway back and forth, back and forth... and then he fell to the ground. The **Israelites** cheered in victory!

4. Ask, "Do you think that David fighting Goliath seemed difficult?"
5. Say, "David knew how he could get through a difficult circumstance. What did he put his faith in?" (*God's help, God's strength*)
6. Say, "In small group today you will answer the question, 'How can you get through difficult circumstances or situations?'"

Dig Deeper in Small Groups

1. Read Philippians 4:11-13.
2. Ask, "What did Paul say he learned?" (*to be content, the secret to facing any circumstance*)
3. Ask, "What is the secret Paul shares?" (*he can do all things through God who strengthens him*)
4. Say, "Paul learned that we can endure any circumstance or situation we find ourselves in with God's strength, just like David did when he found himself facing Goliath."
5. Ask, "Who gives us the power and strength?" (*God*)
6. Ask, "What circumstance or situation could you get through with God's strength?"
7. Pray. Ask God for contentment and His strength in all situations.